

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 07365 211900Z

43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 USIE-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

CEA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 AGRE-00 AF-08 ARA-06

EA-07 NEA-10 /104 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2461

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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OECD PARIS FOR BRUNGART

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD: GROUP B ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

SUMMARY:

AT SEPTEMBER 17 GROUP B MEETING TO DISCUSS ORGANIZATION OF TDB GROUP B COORDINATOR LISTED ISSUES ON WHICH GROUP B COUNTRIES MUST HAVE POSITIONS BY TIME OF THE BOARD (SEE ITEMS MARKED "ACTION" BELOW). THERE IS GENERAL FEELING THAT BOARD WILL BE LARGELY DEVOTED TO INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS RESULTING FROM DECISIONS TAKEN AT UNCTAD IV. THERE WAS ALSO FEELING THAT DEBT ISSUE WOULD BE DISCUSSED. GROUP B DECIDED TO SEEK FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH G-77 AND UNCTAD SECRETARIAT ON UNCTAD'S FINANCING MEETINGS OPEN TO ONLY ONE GROUP.

END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 07365 211900Z

1. GROUP B MET SEPTEMBER 17 TO DISCUSS ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR FORTHCOMING TRADE DEVELOPMENT BOARD. GROUP B COORDINATOR, MONTGOMERY, ANNOUNCED THAT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS INDICATED ALL MEMBERS APPROVED APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR LAGERFELDT (SWEDEN) TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE TDB. PRIOR TO TDB GROUP B MUST ALSO SELECT THREE VICE PRESIDENTS FOR BOARD AND ALSO PROBABLY A VICE-PRESIDENT CUM RAPPORTEUR FOR ONE OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEES.
  2. SECRETARIAT WILL RELEASE SOON DOC. TD/B/611 ADD. 1 REGARDING ECOSOC RESOLUTIONS 2027 AND 2029 WHICH REQUIRES UNCTAD TO REVIEW CERDS. SECRETARIAT WILL PROPOSE THAT RATHER THAN ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE BODY THIS MATTER SHOULD BE PUT ON AGENDA OF 8TH SPECIAL SESSION WHICH IS NORMAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL SESSION. ACTION: U.S. SHOULD HAVE POSITION ON THIS PROPOSAL BY TIME OF TDB.
  3. MISSION TRANSMITTING BY SEPARATE TELEGRAM FOR CONVENIENCE OF WASHINGTON AGENCIES SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR TDB. MONTGOMERY NOTED SECRETARIAT FINDS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO GIVE PRECISE BREAKDOWN ON WHEN SESSIONAL COMMITTEES WILL CONSIDER EACH AGENDA ITEM.
  4. GROUP B MEMBER'S ATTENTION WAS CALLED TO FACT THAT SESSIONAL COMMITTEE I WILL HAVE TO TAKE UP THE PART OF AGENDA ITEM 4 (E.E. RESOLUTION TD/B/L/360 ON INTERDEPENDENCE). THE PLENARY MEETING ON OCTOBER 7 WILL CONSIDER THE REMAINDER OF ITEM 4 AND DELEGATIONS WISHING TO MAKE GENERAL STATEMENTS CAN DO SO AT THAT TIME.
  5. MONTGOMERY NOTED THAT ONLY SIX MEMBERS OF GROUP B CAN BE APPOINTED TO THE WORKING PARTY ON THE BUDGET (ITEM I (D)) AND HE ASKED THAT MEMBERS BE READY TO DECIDE BY TIME OF TDB WHO SHOULD BE ON THIS COMMITTEE. POSWICK OF BELGIUM STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF HAVING HIGHLY QUALIFIED BUDGET EXPERTS SERVE ON COMMITTEE. ACTION: ASSUME U.S. WILL WANT TO BE ON COMMITTEE AND WILL BE PREPARED TO SO STATE AT GROUP B MEETING OCTOBER 4. ALSO, ASSUME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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- PAGE 03      GENEVA 07365 211900Z
- WE WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE QUALIFIED BUDGET EXPERT.
6. ON ITEM I (E) AUSTRALIA ASKED MEMBERS TO CONSIDER WHETHER UNCTAD SHOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE SPECIAL SESSION FOR PURPOSE OF REVIEW AND APPRAISAL. HE NOTED THAT ECOSOC WANTS FUTURE TDBS RESCHEDULED, SO THAT THEY CAN REPORT TO IT DURING ITS SUMMER SESSION AND THIS WOULD ALLOW REGULAR SESSION TO DEVOTE ONE DAY TO THE QUESTION

OF REVIEW AND APPRAISAL.

7. LATENESS OF THREE MOST IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS FOR FORTHCOMING TDB- TD/B/622 ON INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS, TD/B/623 ON BUDGET FLEXIBILITY AND L/437 ON CALENDAR OF MEETINGS, PROVOKED EXTENDED DISCUSSION ON LATE DOCUMENTS. SECRETARIAT CANNOT PROMISE WHEN THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE.

8. ACTION: MONTGOMERY REMINDED GROUP B THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE POSITIONS BY TIME TO TDB ON FOLLOWING ISSUES:

A) RESOLUTION 90 (IV), SECTION II PARA 2- MEETING OF BOARD AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL EVERY TWO YEARS;

B) RESOLUTION 90 (IV), SECTION II PARA 3- MINISTERIAL MEETING ON DEBT PROBLEMS IN 1977M

9. DISCUSSION INDICATED THAT DEBT AND FINANCIAL ISSUES WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPORTANT AT THE BOARD GIVEN THAT ABOVE RESOLUTIONS WERE CARRIED OVER FROM UNCTAD IV. SECRETARIAT IN ITS ORGANIZATION OF WORK SUGGESTS POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING CONTACT GROUP ABOUT BEGINNING SECOND WEEK OF TDB TO CONSIDER THESE MATTERS. MONTGOMERY NOTED THAT COREA HAS REPORTEDLY ASKED ARSENAIS, DIRECTOR OF NEW YORK OFFICE, TO PRESENT RESOLUTIONS IN A MANNER NOT TO ENCOURAGE FULL DISCUSSION AT TDB AND THAT WITH RESUMPTION OF CIEC, G-77 DOES NOT HAVE REASON TO PUSH ON THESE MATTERS IN UNCTAD. NEVERTHELESS IT WAS NOTED BY SOME THAT LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES NOT ENTIRELY HAPPY WITH CIEC AND FEEL THEY NOT REPRESENTED IN IT. ALSO, AS DEBT ISSUE WERE REMITTED BY UNCTAD IV TO BOARD IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO AVOID DISCUSSING THEM. ACTION: WE RECOMMEND THAT FINANCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 GENEVA 07365 211900Z

SPECIALIST BE INCLUDED IN TDB DELEGATION. IF THIS NOT POSSIBLE FINANCE SPECIALIST SHOULD BE PREPARED TO COME ON SHORT NOTICE IN CASE TDB GETS INTO EXTENSIVE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS ON THIS ISSUE.

10. NOTING THAT TDB WILL BE LARGELY FOLLOW UP TO UNCTAD IV AND DEVOTED TO INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS, MONTGOMERY SAID THAT HIS DELEGATION WILL HAVE AN EXPERT ON BUDGET AND UN ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS AND URGED THAT OTHER MISSIONS CONSIDER INCLUDING SUCH AN EXPERT ON THEIR DELEGATIONS.

11. DURING BRIEF DISCUSSION OF UNCTAD'S FINANCING OF MEETINGS OPEN TO ONLY ONE GROUP, AUSTRALIA SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD HOLD FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH G-77 AND

SECRETARIAT AND THAT IF G-77 OBJECTS TO INCLUDING ITEM  
ON TDB AGENDA WE SHOULD FIND WAYS TO MAKE OUR POINTS  
UNDER OTHER AGENDA ITEMS. FRG URGED THAT WE ENTER  
INTO CONSULTATIONS WITH A VIEW TO WORKING OUT PROCEDURE  
WHEREBY UNCTAD ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA CAN PROCEED IN  
ORDERLY MANNER. U.S. NOTED THAT WHILE WE FAVORED  
CONSULTATIONS WE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT COMPROMISE  
IN UNCTAD FORUM DID NOT PREJUDICE FURTHER CONSIDERATION  
IN OTHER FORA WHICH MIGHT BE MORE FAVORABLE TO US SUCH  
AS 5TH COMMITTEE. JAPAN SAID SEEKING AMICABLE SOLUTION  
WAS OK BUT WARNED THAT SOME MEMBERS OF G-77 ARE READY  
TO FIGHT ON THIS ISSUE. MONTGOMERY THEN PROPOSED TO  
HOLD EARLY CONSULTATIONS AND TO ASK A LIMITED NUMBER  
OF GROUP B COUNTRIES TO JOIN HIM. WILL ADVISE.

12. ALL GROUP B DELEGATIONS ARE ASKED TO  
MEET AT 11 A.M. ON OCTOBER 4 FOR COORDINATION MEETING.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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